

CONVERSATIONS AT THE CENTER

SCIENCE, SECULARIZATION, & AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

LABORATORIES & LIBERTY IN THE IMAGINATIONS OF AMERICAN JEWS

A TALK BY
NOAH EFRON

Religion and science are often believed to be at odds with one another: science, seen as the vehicle that drives secularization, is assumed to conflict with religion, pushing it out of public life.

But what happens when secularization is seen not as a threat to religious expression, but a platform that elevates it?

In his talk, **Noah Efron** (Bar-Ilan University, Israel) will challenge the assumed incompatibility between science and religion, drawing on the example of early 20th century American Jews and their response to the developing role of science in the public sphere. For many in the Jewish community, as Efron argues, the values that were identified in science—universalism, meritocracy, indifference to the provenance of scientific theory, progress, and more—would make America into a place where those of all faith traditions could more easily thrive. Join us in exploring how a “scientific” America invites religious inclusion and bolsters American democracy.

This event is supported in part by a grant from the Templeton Religion Trust for the project, “Beyond Secularization: A New Approach to Religion, Science and Technology in Public Life.”

TUESDAY
MARCH 3, 2020
12:00NOON
WEST HALL 135
ASU TEMPE CAMPUS

For more information and to RSVP:

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Light refreshments will be served